

Amendment under 37 CFR §1.111
Application No. 10/501,813
Attorney Docket No. 042393

REMARKS

Allowable Claims

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 1 and 2 are allowed.

Rejections under 35 USC §112, Second Paragraph

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention

Accordingly, claim 6 has been amended to depend from claims 1 and 2.

Rejections under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 3 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over JP 09-302496 (JP'496) in combination with Wikipedia ("Alkali Metal," pages 1-3).

Claims 3 and 5-7 have been cancelled. Thus, this rejection has become moot.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

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If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sadao Kinashi", written in a cursive style.

Sadao Kinashi

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